

Approved May 25, 1995.

Filed with the Secretary of State, May 25, 1995.

H.C.R. No. 92

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, The studies of the arts, sciences, and humanities are woven into the fabric of our cultural identity, and advancement in these areas opens up new horizons in learning and allows us to celebrate the diversity and unique cultural heritage of Texas; and

WHEREAS, Recognizing outstanding individuals in these fields and bestowing on them titles of honor is a long-standing practice in many states and serves as an encouragement to other talented researchers and practitioners of these studies; and

WHEREAS, By implementing a cultural awareness program that includes a system of awards for those who have made significant contributions in the fields of science, art, and the humanities, the Texas Legislature will foster the expression and exchange of ideas, which should be the highest priority of a democratic society; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the 74th Legislature of the State of Texas hereby establish the Governor's Awards for Excellence in the Arts, Humanities, and Sciences, to be given annually to Texans who demonstrate outstanding creative and intellectual achievement in these fields of study; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the nominations committee for these awards be composed of 13 members: two house members appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives; two senators appointed by the lieutenant governor; two members from the Texas Commission on the Arts; two members from the Texas Committee for the Humanities; two members from the Texas National Research Laboratory Commission and three appointees named by the governor; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That this committee compile a list of nominees in the areas of the arts, the sciences, and the humanities and submit the names of these nominees to the governor; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the governor of the State of Texas select one person from each field to receive the Governor's Awards for Excellence in the Arts, Humanities, and Sciences.

Hunter of Taylor

Adopted by the House on March 30, 1995, by a non-record vote. Adopted by the Senate on May 22, 1995, by a viva-voce vote.

Approved June 16, 1995.

Filed with the Secretary of State, June 16, 1995.

H.C.R. No. 94

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, The State of Texas has traditionally recognized a variety of official state symbols that embody the proud spirit and rich heritage of our state; and

WHEREAS, The bluebonnet, the Guadalupe bass, and the mockingbird are examples of natural specimens that serve to symbolize the great diversity of the Texas landscape, while the state dish, chili, fittingly represents another aspect of our shared culture as Texans; and

WHEREAS, In keeping with this custom, the designation of the monarch butterfly as the official State Insect of Texas will provide suitable recognition for this regal inhabitant of the Lone Star State; and

WHEREAS, The monarch butterfly, known to scientists as *Danaus plexippus*, is a familiar and thrilling sight to Texans who play host to this beautiful insect each year as it travels southward toward the equator; its distinctive rust-colored wings, marked by black veins and two rows of white spots, make the monarch butterfly instantly recognizable to all; and

WHEREAS, This stately creature is also renowned for its unique ability to evade predators; its main source of nourishment, the milkweed plant, contains a form of poison that makes the monarch butterfly unpalatable to birds and other hungry critters; and

WHEREAS, Like Texas, the monarch butterfly has inspired imitators but remains in a league all its own; the viceroy butterfly, whose wings closely resemble those of the monarch, manages to avoid being eaten by relying on the reputation of its more deadly cousin; and

WHEREAS, One of the heartiest and most resolute members of the insect kingdom, the monarch butterfly migrates nearly 2,000 miles southward each year in its quest to find a warmer home for the winter, descending on the State of Texas for one last rest and feeding before it embarks on the final leg of its journey to the mountains of Mexico; and

WHEREAS, The Lone Star State also holds the distinction of being the birthplace of this imperial insect; each spring the skies over Texas are filled with excitement and color as many thousands of these tiny creatures return to the site of their own nativity to give birth to a new generation; and

WHEREAS, Recognizing this butterfly's great affinity for our state, the National Monarch Project has designated the Abilene Zoological Gardens as the first official sanctuary along the eastern migration path, and Texans everywhere can take immense pride in the special tie that we share with this magnificent creature; and

WHEREAS, The monarch butterfly is as beautiful and memorable as a Texas sunset, soaring above all other insects in its nobility and determination, and its unique relationship with Texas makes it a truly appropriate symbol of the majestic spirit of the Lone Star State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the 74th Legislature of the State of Texas hereby designate the monarch butterfly as the official State Insect of Texas.

Wohlgemuth
Hunter of Taylor

Adopted by the House on May 12, 1995, by a non-record vote. Adopted by the Senate on May 27, 1995, by a viva-voce vote.

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H.C.R. No. 96

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Throughout the trying days of World War II, the American fighting effort was augmented by the heroic actions of numerous minority service personnel, yet their contributions have rarely been singled out for praise and recognition; and

WHEREAS, Appropriate historical attention has been given to only a few select groups, such as the Navajo and Lakota radio operators who transmitted vital information in their native languages, thus foiling Japanese eavesdropping attempts; and

WHEREAS, The actions of minority veterans have been largely overlooked by history books and media retrospectives despite the fact that their work was instrumental to the Allied war effort; they served with distinction in combat and in other critical fields such as transportation, communication, and engineering, and without their integral participation, many battles—and perhaps the war itself—could have been lost; and

WHEREAS, Hispanic and Native American personnel were integrated into existing units, but black and Japanese-American personnel were placed in segregated units; yet the racial tensions of that era did not prevent these patriots from executing their duties with integrity and pride, and their individual and collective efforts had a tremendous impact; and

WHEREAS, Segregated transportation units worked around the clock to keep supply lines open, while several black combat units participated in the D-Day invasion of Normandy, the most pivotal battle of the war; highly decorated Japanese-American units distinguished